

**MULTIDISCIPLINARY TEAMS AUTHORIZATIONS OR MANDATES:  
PROVISIONS AND CITATIONS IN ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES LAWS, BY STATE**

(Laws current as of 12/31/06)

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**CAUTION:** Read the explanation of this chart before relying upon the chart. You can find the explanation online at <http://www.abanet.org/aging/about/elderabuse.shtml>.

STATE	MANDATED OR AUTHORIZED	STATUTORY PROVISION(S) AND CITATION(S)
California	Mandated	<p>Adult protective services shall include investigations, needs assessments, remedial and preventive social work activities; the necessary tangible resources such as food, transportation, emergency shelter, and in-home protective care; the use of <b>multidisciplinary teams</b>; and a system in which reporting of abuse can occur on a 24-hour basis. Cal. Welf. &amp; Inst. Code § 15760</p> <hr/> <p>Each county shall establish an emergency response adult protective services program that shall provide in-person response, 24 hours per day, seven days per week, to reports of abuse of an elder or a dependent adult, for the purpose of providing immediate intake or intervention, or both, to new reports involving immediate life threats and to crises in existing cases. The program shall include policies and procedures to accomplish all of the following: ... (3) Establishment of <b>multidisciplinary teams</b> to develop interagency treatment strategies, to ensure maximum coordination with existing community resources, to ensure maximum access on behalf of elders and dependent adults, and to avoid duplication of efforts. Cal. Welf. &amp; Inst. Code §15763(a)</p> <hr/> <p>Each county shall designate an adult protective services agency to establish and maintain <b>multidisciplinary teams</b> including, but not limited to, adult protective services, law enforcement, probation departments, home health care agencies, hospitals, adult protective services staff, the public guardian, private community service agencies, public health agencies, and mental health agencies for the purpose of providing interagency treatment strategies. Cal. Welf. &amp; Inst. Code § 15763(f)</p>
Colorado	Authorized	<p>It is the general assembly's further intent to encourage the creation of an <b>at-risk adult protection team</b> for each county or contiguous group of counties in the state. The purpose of the at-risk adult protection team shall be to review the processes used to investigate mistreatment or self-neglect of at-risk adults, to review the provision of protective services for such adults, to encourage interagency cooperation, and to provide community education on the mistreatment and self-neglect of at-risk adults. The director of each county department is authorized to create and coordinate a protection team for the respective county in accordance</p>

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		<p>with rules adopted by the state board of human services, which rules shall govern the establishment, composition, and duties of the team and shall be consistent with this subsection (3). Colo. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 26-3.1-103(3)</p> <hr/> <p>It is the general assembly's further intent to encourage the <b>at-risk adult protection teams</b> created pursuant to section 26-3.1-103(3) to expand their purposes to include a review of the processes used to investigate reports of known or suspected financial exploitation of at-risk adults, a review of the provision of services, if any, given to such adults, an encouragement of interagency cooperation concerning functions related to financial exploitation of at-risk adults, and a provision of community education in identifying and preventing the financial exploitation of at-risk adults. Colo. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 26-3.1-205(3)</p>
Florida	Authorized	<p>(1) Subject to an appropriation, the department may develop, maintain, and coordinate the services of one or more <b>multidisciplinary adult protection teams</b> in each of the districts of the department. As used in this section, the term “multidisciplinary adult protection team” means a team of two or more persons who are trained in the prevention, identification, and treatment of abuse of elderly persons, as defined in s. 430.602, or of dependent persons and who are qualified to provide a broad range of services related to abuse of elderly or dependent persons.</p> <p>(2) Such teams may be composed of, but need not be limited to:</p> <p>(a) Psychiatrists, psychologists, or other trained counseling personnel; (b) Police officers or other law enforcement officers; (c) Medical personnel who have sufficient training to provide health services; (d) Social workers who have experience or training in preventing the abuse of elderly or dependent persons; and (e) Public guardians as described in part IX of chapter 744.</p> <p>(3) The department shall utilize and convene the teams to supplement the protective services activities of the protective services program of the department.</p> <p>(4) This section does not prevent a person from reporting under s. 415.1034 all suspected or known cases of abuse, neglect, or exploitation of a vulnerable adult. The role of the teams is to support activities of the protective services program and to provide services deemed by the teams to be necessary and appropriate to abused, neglected, and exploited vulnerable adults upon referral. Services must be provided with the consent of the vulnerable adult or that person's guardian, or through court order.</p> <p>(5) If an adult protection team is providing certain services to abused, neglected, or exploited vulnerable adults, other offices and units of the department shall avoid duplicating those services. Fla. Stat. Ann. § 415.1102</p>
Guam	Mandated	<p>The [APS] unit shall: (f) Appoint a <b>multi-disciplinary team</b> which may include, but is not limited to, representatives from the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse, the Guam Medical Society, Guam Legal Services Corporation, the Advocacy Office, the Catholic Archdiocese of Guam, the Guam Ministerial Association and the Mayors' Council... 10 Guam Code Ann. § 2956</p>

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Iowa	Mandated	The department shall establish and operate a dependent adult abuse services program. The program shall emphasize the reporting and evaluation of cases of abuse of a dependent adult who is unable to protect the adult's own interests or unable to perform activities necessary to meet essential human needs. The program shall include but is not limited to: 1. The establishment of local or regional <b>multidisciplinary teams</b> to assist in assessing the needs of, formulating and monitoring a treatment plan for, and coordinating services to victims of dependent adult abuse. The membership of a team shall include individuals who possess knowledge and skills related to the diagnosis, assessment, and disposition of dependent adult abuse cases and who are professionals practicing in the disciplines of medicine, public health, mental health, social work, law, law enforcement, or other disciplines relative to dependent adults. Members of a team shall include, but are not limited to, persons representing the area agencies on aging, county attorneys, health care providers, and other persons involved in advocating or providing services to dependent adults. Iowa Code Ann. § 235B.1(1)
Kentucky	Mandated	The cabinet shall, to the extent practicable, support <b>specialized multidisciplinary teams</b> to investigate reports made under this chapter. This team may include law enforcement officers, social workers, Commonwealth's attorneys and county attorneys, representatives from other authorized agencies, medical professionals, and other related professionals with investigative responsibilities, as necessary. Ky. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 209.030(6)(b)
Louisiana	Mandated	The adult protection agencies shall convene a regional level <b>coordinating council</b> composed of representatives of both public and private agencies providing services, with the objectives of identifying resources, increasing needed supportive services, avoiding duplication of effort, and assuring maximum community coordination of effort. La. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 403.2(E)(5)
Minnesota	Authorized	<p>Subdivision 1. Establishment of team. A county may establish a <b>multidisciplinary adult protection team</b> comprised of the director of the local welfare agency or designees, the county attorney or designees, the county sheriff or designees, and representatives of health care. In addition, representatives of mental health or other appropriate human service agencies and adult advocate groups may be added to the adult protection team. Minn. Stat. Ann. § 626.557, Subd. 1</p> <hr/> <p>Subd. 2. Duties of team. A <b>multidisciplinary adult protection team</b> may provide public and professional education, develop resources for prevention, intervention, and treatment, and provide case consultation to the local welfare agency to better enable the agency to carry out its adult protection functions under section 626.557 and to meet the community's needs for adult protection services. Case consultation may be performed by a committee of the team composed of the team members representing social services, law enforcement, the county attorney, health care, and persons directly involved in an individual case as determined by the case consultation committee. Case consultation is a case review process that results in recommendations about services to be provided to the identified adult and family. Minn. Stat. Ann. § 626.557, Subd. 2</p>

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Montana	Mandated	The county attorney or the department of public health and human services shall convene one or more temporary or permanent <b>interdisciplinary adult protective service teams</b> . These teams shall assist in assessing the needs of, formulating and monitoring a treatment plan for, and coordinating services to older persons and persons with developmental disabilities who are victims of abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, or exploitation. The supervisor of adult protective services of the department of public health and human services or the department's designee shall serve as the team's coordinator. Members must include a social worker, a member of a local law enforcement agency, a representative of the medical profession, and a county attorney or the county attorney's designee, who is an attorney. Members may include other appropriate persons designated by the county attorney or the department. Mont. Code Ann. § 52-3-805(1)
Nevada	Authorized	The administrator of the aging services division of the department may organize one or more <b>teams to assist in strategic assessment and planning of protective services, issues regarding the delivery of service, programs or individual plans for preventing, identifying, remedying or treating abuse, neglect, exploitation or isolation of older persons</b> . Members of the team serve at the invitation of the administrator and must be experienced in preventing, identifying, remedying or treating abuse, neglect, exploitation or isolation of older persons. The team may include representatives of other organizations concerned with education, law enforcement or physical or mental health. Nev. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 200.5091(2)
South Carolina <sup>3</sup>	Mandated	<p>(A) There is created a <b>multi-disciplinary Vulnerable Adults Fatalities Review Committee</b> composed of: (1) the Director of the South Carolina Department of Social Services; (2) the Commissioner of the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control; (3) the Executive Director of the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy; (4) the Chief of the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division; (5) the Director of the South Carolina Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services; (6) the Director of the South Carolina Department of Mental Health; (7) the Director of the South Carolina Department of Disabilities and Special Needs; (8) the Director of the Office on Aging; (9) the Executive Director of Protection and Advocacy for People with Disabilities, Inc.; (10) two representatives from two county boards of disabilities and special needs established pursuant to Section 44-20-375; (11) a county coroner or medical examiner; (12) an attorney with experience in prosecuting crimes against vulnerable adults; (13) a physician with experience in treating vulnerable adults, appointed from recommendations submitted by the South Carolina Medical Association; (14) a solicitor; (15) a forensic pathologist; and (16) two members of the public at large, one of whom must represent a private nonprofit community residential care facility and one of whom must represent a public for profit community residential care facility, both of which must provide services to vulnerable adults.</p> <p>(B) Those members enumerated in items (1) through (10) shall serve ex officio and may appoint a designee, who has administrative or program responsibilities for vulnerable adults, to serve in their place from their particular departments or agencies. The remaining members, including the coroner or medical examiner and solicitor, who shall serve ex officio, must be appointed by the Governor for terms of four years and until their</p>

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	<p data-bbox="359 467 489 495">Mandated</p>	<p data-bbox="598 175 1984 427"> successors are appointed and qualify.  (C) A chairman and vice chairman of the committee must be elected from among the members by a majority vote of the membership for a term of two years.  (D) Meetings of the committee must be held at least quarterly. A majority of the committee constitutes a quorum.  (E) Each ex officio member shall provide sufficient staff and administrative support to carry out the responsibilities of this article. S.C. Code Ann. § 43-35-560 </p> <hr/> <p data-bbox="598 467 2005 1263"> (A) There is created the <b>Adult Protection Coordinating Council</b> under the auspices of the State Health and Human Services Finance Commission and is comprised of: (1) one member from the institutional care service provision system or a family member of a consumer of that system and one member from the home and community-based service provision system or a family member of a consumer of that system, both of whom must be appointed by the Governor for terms of two years; and (2) these members who shall serve ex officio: (a) Attorney General or a designee; (b) Board of Long Term Health Care Administrators, Executive Director, or a designee; (c) State Board of Nursing for South Carolina, Executive Director, or a designee; (d) Commission on Aging, Executive Director, or a designee; (e) Criminal Justice Academy, Executive Director, or a designee; (f) South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, Commissioner, or a designee; (g) State Department of Mental Health, Commissioner, or a designee; (h) South Carolina Department of Mental Retardation, Commissioner, or a designee; (i) Adult Protective Services Program, Director, or a designee; (j) Health and Human Services Finance Commission, Executive Director, or a designee; (k) Joint Legislative Committee on Aging, Chair, or a designee; (l) Police Chiefs' Association, President, or a designee; (m) Prosecution Coordination Commission, Executive Director, or a designee; (n) South Carolina Protection and Advocacy System for the Handicapped, Inc., Executive Director, or a designee; (o) South Carolina Sheriff's Association, Executive Director, or a designee; (p) South Carolina Law Enforcement Division, Chief, or a designee; (q) Long Term Care Ombudsman or a designee; (r) South Carolina Medical Association, Executive Director, or a designee; (s) South Carolina Health Care Association, Executive Director, or a designee; (t) South Carolina Home Care Association, Executive Director, or a designee.  (B) Vacancies on the council must be filled in the same manner as the initial appointment. S.C. Code Ann. § 43-35-310 </p> <hr/> <p data-bbox="598 1312 2005 1481"> The <b>Adult Protection Coordinating Council</b> shall coordinate the planning and implementation efforts of the entities involved in the adult protection system. Members shall facilitate problem resolution and develop action plans to overcome problems identified within the system. The council shall develop methods of addressing the ongoing needs of vulnerable adults, including increasing public awareness of adult abuse, neglect, and exploitation. The council shall remain abreast of new trends in adult protection from national </p>

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		<p>clearinghouses and other appropriate entities. The Adult Protection Coordinating Council has no authority to direct or require implementing action from any member or entity. S.C. Code Ann. § 43-35-320</p> <hr/> <p>(A) Duties of the <b>council</b> are to: (1) provide oversight in adult protection and to recommend changes in the system; (2) identify and promote training on critical issues in adult protection; (3) facilitate arrangements for continuing education seminars and credits, when appropriate; (4) coordinate agency training when possible to avoid duplication; (5) coordinate data collection and conduct analyses including periodic monitoring and evaluation of the incidence and prevalence of adult abuse, neglect, and exploitation; (6) determine and target problem areas for training based on the analysis of the data; (7) promote resource development; (8) assist with problem resolution and facilitate interagency coordination of efforts; (9) promote and enhance public awareness; (10) promote prevention and intervention activities to ensure quality of care for vulnerable adults and their families; (11) provide technical assistance for developing memoranda of agreement among involved entities; (12) promote coordination and communication among groups and associations which may be affected by the Adult Protection Coordinating Council's actions through the use of memoranda of agreement.</p> <p>(B) Duties of the council are subject to the appropriation of funding and allocation of personnel sufficient to carry out the functions of the council. S.C. Code Ann. § 43-35-330</p>

<sup>1</sup> The views expressed herein have not been approved by the House of Delegates or the Board of Governors of the American Bar Association and, accordingly, should not be construed as representing the policy of the American Bar Association.

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<sup>3</sup> Unlike the other states in this chart, the second column reflects that statute mandates two different types of MDTs.